

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. a driving method for a flat-panel display device which includes, on a substrate, a plurality of signal lines, a plurality of gate lines substantially perpendicular to said signal lines, a plurality of switching elements provided near intersections of said signal lines and said gate lines, a plurality of pixel electrodes connected via said switching elements, and a counter electrode opposed to said pixel electrodes, and in which a display signal is sequentially supplied to said signal lines and a potential of said counter electrode is inverted with respect to a reference potential for every predetermined number of horizontal and vertical scanning periods or for every predetermined number of vertical scanning periods so as to perform a display operation, said driving method being characterized by comprising fixing all said signal lines to a predetermined potential and inverting the potential of said counter electrode during a horizontal or vertical blanking period subsequent to a horizontal or vertical display period.

2. A driving method according to claim 1, wherein the predetermined potential corresponds to an intermediate potential between maximum and minimum levels of the display signal.

3. A driving method according to claim 1, wherein the display signal is sequentially supplied to said

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signal lines during the horizontal display period.

4. A driving method according to claim 1, wherein  
said signal lines are divided into two or more groups,  
each group including a predetermined number of adjacent  
ones of said signal lines, and the display signal is  
5 sequentially supplied to each of the groups of said  
signal lines by time division during the horizontal  
display period.

5. A driving method according to claim 1, wherein  
10 said signal lines are divided into two or more groups,  
each group including a predetermined number of adjacent  
ones of said signal lines, and the display signal is  
simultaneously supplied to the groups of said signal  
lines during the horizontal display period, such that  
15 the display signal is sequentially supplied to said  
signal lines of each group by time division during  
the horizontal display period.

6. A driving method according to claim 1, wherein  
the display signal is supplied in a digital form, and  
20 converted into an analog form on the substrate.

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